

To whom it may concern:

The possibility of the LightSquared wireless broadband project encroaching upon the civilian commercial GPS spectrum is a dangerous prospect, as it will impact the livelihoods and profitability of most grain producers who farm for a living. Agriculture has gained literally hundreds of millions (if not billions) of dollars in annual profitability from the increased efficiency that high accuracy GPS positioning provides and it will most certainly lose those hundreds of millions of dollars if we are forced to go back to the antiquated production practices that were employed prior to broad-scale adoption of precision agriculture.

Furthermore, those added costs will ultimately be passed on to the consumer in the form of higher food prices. Commodity prices have already shot up because of dwindling resources, and they will take a steeper trajectory if producers are to lose the efficiencies they have gained over the past 10 years.

Food traceability systems will also suffer from failure to capture accurate positioning of the harvest of fruits, vegetables, and cereal grains. This will make it harder to pinpoint and track down problems when food safety issues must be investigated, which may ultimately end up in lives lost unnecessarily.

Also, the increases in efficiency result in less fossil fuels being burnt and less overlap in the application of fertilizers and pesticides- which keeps pollutants from entering the water system. Thus, the LightSquared initiative could also cause environmental harm by compromising the accuracy of agricultural GPS positioning.

Turning off Selective Availability was one of the greatest leaps forward for efficiency in production agriculture as high-accuracy GPS permeates nearly facet of grain production, and LightSquared has the capability of taking these quantum leaps forward- and rendering them null and void.

LightSquared is a threat to the economic, food, and environmental safety of the United States of America.

Regards,

Ted Hinton
Precision Ag and Application Specialist (and member of a family farming operation)
Bruna Implement Company
Hiawatha, KS
785-742-2261 work
785-741-4546 cell